

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 01479 090234Z
ACTION AF-10

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AF FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EADI, PEPR, GV, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT TOURE'S INTERESTS AND CONCERNS RE US AID

REF: CONAKRY 1477

1. IN COURSE OF EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE AUGUST 3, PRESIDENT TOURE THANKED THE US FOR HAVING SINCE GUINEA'S INDEPENDENCE RESPONDED TO GOG APPEALS FOR AID. HE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF US FOOD ASSISTANCE AND ITS DIRECT BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE OF GUINEA. HE POINTED OUT THAT PL-480 TITLE II EMERGENCY DROUGHT ASSISTANCE THIS YEAR WAS LARGEST OF ANY FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION AND HAD BEEN WIDELY PUBLICIZED AS SUCH AMONG THE POPULATION, WHICH COULD SEE HOW FAR DOWN THE LIST OF THOSE RESPONDING TO GUINEA'S NEEDS THE SOCIALIST STATES WERE. HE SAID THE PUBLISHED FIGURES, WITHOUT COMMENT, SPOKE FOR THEMSELVES, THE PEOPLE UNDERSTOOD AND APPRECAITED.

2. TOURE EMPHASIZED THE OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPMENT OF GUINEAN AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND TRAINING PROJECT WHICH WAS TO TURN OUT THOUSANDS OF GUINEAN AGRICULTUR-
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ALISTS. MOOSE ASSURED HIM THAT WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ACCELERATE THE PROJECT. TOURE EXPRESSED PAIN REGRET THAT AID PROJECT MANAGER HARTMAN (WHOM HE CITED BY NAME) HAD NOT BEEN REPLACED SINCE HIS DEPARTURE IN DECEMBER 1977. HE AID HE DID NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND WHY HARTMAN HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED TO DAKAR, BUT HE HOPED A PERMANENT REPLACEMENT WOULD SOON BE PRO-

VIDED, AS HE IS SORELY NEEDED.

3. COMMENT: MENTION OF THE AID AGRICULTURAL PROJECT AND LACK OF PROJECT MANAGER BY PRESIDENT TOURE IN THIS FIRST MEETING WITH HIGH-LEVEL USG OFFICIAL IN FIVE YEARS UNDERSCORES IMPORTANCE TOURE ATTACHES TO PROJECT AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR AID EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE INITIATION OF CONSTRUCTION ON PROJECT AND HOPE THERE WILL BE NO SLIPPAGE. NEED FOR A PROJECT MANAGER INCREASES AS WE MOVE INTO INITIAL PHASES OF PRE-SELECTION OF CONSTRUCTION FIRMS, ORDERING OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, ETC., BUT AS OF THE PRESENT WE HAVE NO INDICATION FROM AID/W WHEN A REPLACEMENT FOR HARTMAN MIGHT ARRIVE. SINCE GUINEANS, INCLUDING TOURE HIMSELF, ARE OBVIOUSLY AWARE OF AND INTERESTED IN SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM, WE HOPE AID WILL BEND EVERY EFFORT TO GET REPLACEMENT OUT SOON. END COMMENT.

CROSBY

SUBJECT TEL REISSUED, DOWNGRADED PER MR. MCELHANEY

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